

Andy Stanley

Marriage Study

It’s easy to fall in love,  
Staying in love requires a plan.

1. Love is a verb.
   1. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ Eph 5:21
2. Re-model. Imitating Christ’s Humility

**Phil 2**Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, **2**then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. **3**Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. **Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.**

**5**In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

**6**Who, being in very nature God,  
    did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;  
**7**rather, he made himself nothing  
    by taking the very nature of a servant,  
    being made in human likeness.  
**8**And being found in appearance as a man,  
    he humbled himself  
    by becoming obedient to death—  
        even death on a cross!

**9**Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
    and gave him the name that is above every name,  
**10**that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
    in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
**11**and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
    to the glory of God the Father.

1. Mugs with beads. What comes spilling out when we collide with one another is what is in us, and it’s up to us to deal with that directly with God.
2. We have a choice in what we put in the gap between our expectations and the others behavior. We can assume the worst, or **believe the best**.
3. Bonus, Dallas Willard: How to give a blessing Num 6:24-26.
4. Celebration: Remember to praise God for the progress, maybe even lift a glass.